

Our Guarantee on Invasion

The President agreed in his letter of October 27 "to give assurances against an invasion of Cuba . . . upon the establishment of adequate arrangements through the United Nations to ensure the carrying out and continuation" of Khrushchev's commitments to remove the weapons and send no more. Inasmuch as such arrangements have not yet been established, our assurances against invasion have not yet been given, just as our quarantine has not yet been withdrawn.

If and when they are given, they will be conditioned upon and consistent with the treaties of the OAS and the Resolution of the Congress -- returning, in short, to the situation which was summed up in the President's statement of September 13. That statement repeated our policy to "neither initiate nor permit aggression in this Hemisphere." This has been our policy since the Rio Treaty of 1947 and before.

Surveillance, therefore -- either unilateral or international -- will continue, any attempt by Castro to export subversion, sabotage or aggression -- or any new attempt by the Soviets to convert Cuba into an offensive military base -- or any threat to Guantanamo or the U.S.A. or any other nation in this Hemisphere -- would once again be met by whatever measures are required, although an invasion is clearly only one of many alternatives. Existing economic and political sanctions against Castro will remain. When the weapons currently on the island are withdrawn, only our current posture concerning invasion will be withdrawn. And even this cannot bind us against all future contingencies -- provide a permanent sanctuary or guarantee for Castro and Communism -- diminish our objective that the Cuban people will someday be truly free -- or foreclose the possibility that our forces may someday be invited by those in official position to help them free their island. The OAS still believes that Communism has no place in this Hemisphere.